United States Bankruptcy Court
Northern District of Florida

readyDockets
An Application to Notify Pacer Users of Case Activity

Description:

The Bankruptcy Court of the Northern District of Florida has implemented a new CM/ECF feature that will allow Pacer users to be notified automatically of new activity in cases via RssReader. Case activity is updated by readyDockets every five minutes and can be retrieved with RssReader as often as desired. Users can select notification based on case number, case type, or attorney name without having to be a party in the case or having immediate notice of electronic filing emails. **Please read this entire document before attempting installation.**
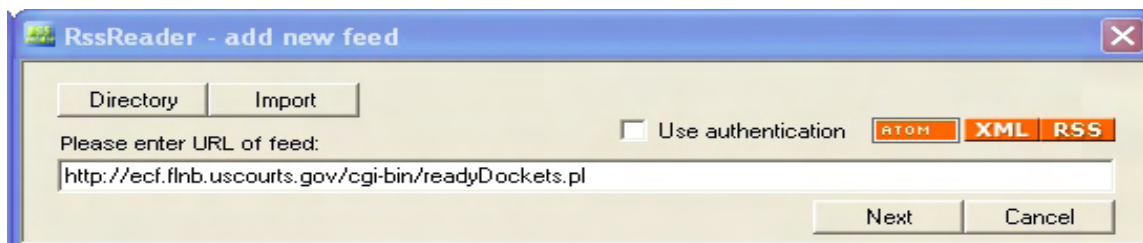
Installation of RssReader:

RssReader is a free application that can be downloaded from http://www.rssreader.com. Follow the "First time installation instructions" as shown on their web site. If you are running Windows 2000 or Windows XP and have the latest updates, you can proceed to step 2. You should download the .exe file in step 2 and save it on your desktop. After downloading, run the installer from the desktop where you saved it. Once the reader has been installed, complete the steps below to receive CM/ECF feeds. **Other readers exist and will work equally well with this application. The court does not recommend any particular reader over another.**
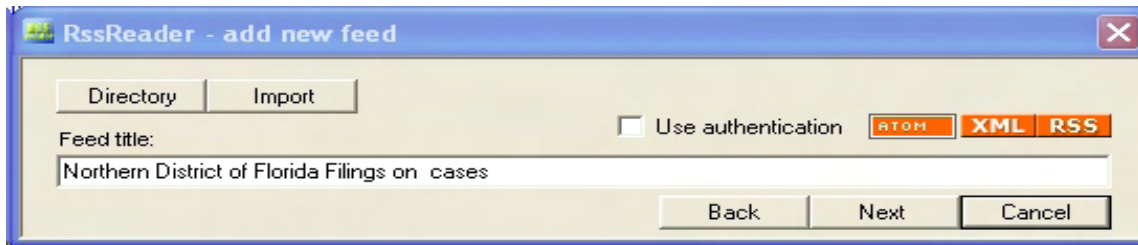
Setup of CM/ECF feeds:

Start the RssReader program and select the "Add" button from the toolbar. This will prompt you to enter the URL of the feed. You must enter (or copy and paste):

http://ecf.flnb.uscourts.gov/cgi-bin/readyDockets.pl   into the provided space.

All motions, orders and miscellaneous docket events for all cases in the last 24 hours will be selected. You may select one or more filters, as described below, to limit the data sent to your feed. Note that you must begin the first filter with a "?" and separate filters with a "&" (do not include quotation marks). You may wish to get everything as a test, and go back later to add filters.

After entering the URL and pressing next, RssReader will attempt to locate the feed and, if successful, display the feed name.

If you get an error message that the feed can not be found, check the URL and try again. Otherwise, click OK to add the feed to the My Feeds folder. This completes the setup of RssReader.

Adding Filters to the Feed:

Filters allow you to select only specific information from the available data. Case numbers, attorney name, chapter number and case type are filters that can be used from the Northern District of Florida feed. Each header (refers to docket event) will be compared to the filters you have selected. If the header matches any one of your filters, it will be passed on to you. If it fails to match one of your filters, it will be skipped. The following are the filters available and examples of how to use them.

Case Number Filter:

*case=***number**   - **number** can be complete or partial case number(s)

> example: ***http://ecf.flnb.uscourts.gov/cgi-bin/readyDockets.pl ?case=05-40001***
>   (All entries for case number 05-40001)
> example: ***http://...pl?case=05-3***
>   (Entries on all 2005 (05) cases from Pensacola (-3))
> example: ***http://...pl?case=05-40001,05-30123***
>   (All entries on cases 05-40001 and 05-30123)

Attorney Filter:

*atty=***name**   - **name** is full or partial attorney name(s)

> example: ***http://....pl ?atty=john j. johnson***
>   (Only cases with John J. Johnson as an attorney)
> example: ***http://...pl?atty=johnson***
>   (Only cases with any Johnson as an attorney)
> example: ***http://...pl?atty=john j. johnson, bill johnson***
>   (Cases with either John J. Johnson OR Bill Johnson as attorneys)

Chapter Filter:
chapter=**number**   - **number** is 7,11,12 or 13

  example: ***http://....pl ?chapter=13*** (only chapter 13 cases)

Case Type Filter:
type=**type**   - **type** is BK or AP

  example: ***http://....pl ?type=ap*** (only adversary cases)

Combinations:
  example: ***http://....pl ?atty=john j. johnson&type=ap***
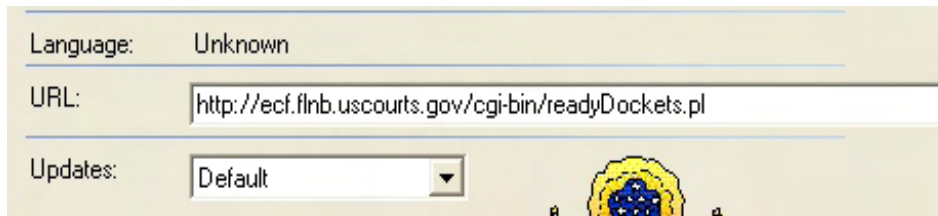   (Cases with John J. Johnson AND all adversary cases)
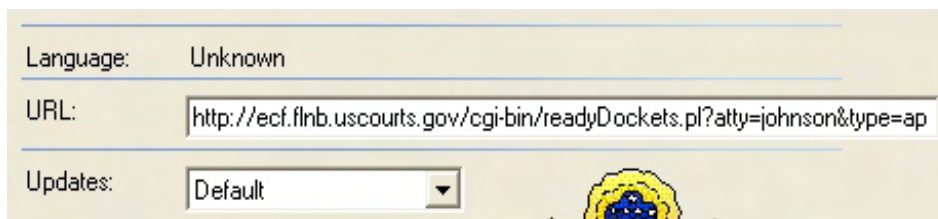 example: ***http://....pl ?case=05-1&type=ap***
        (All Gainesville cases AND all adversary cases (any division))
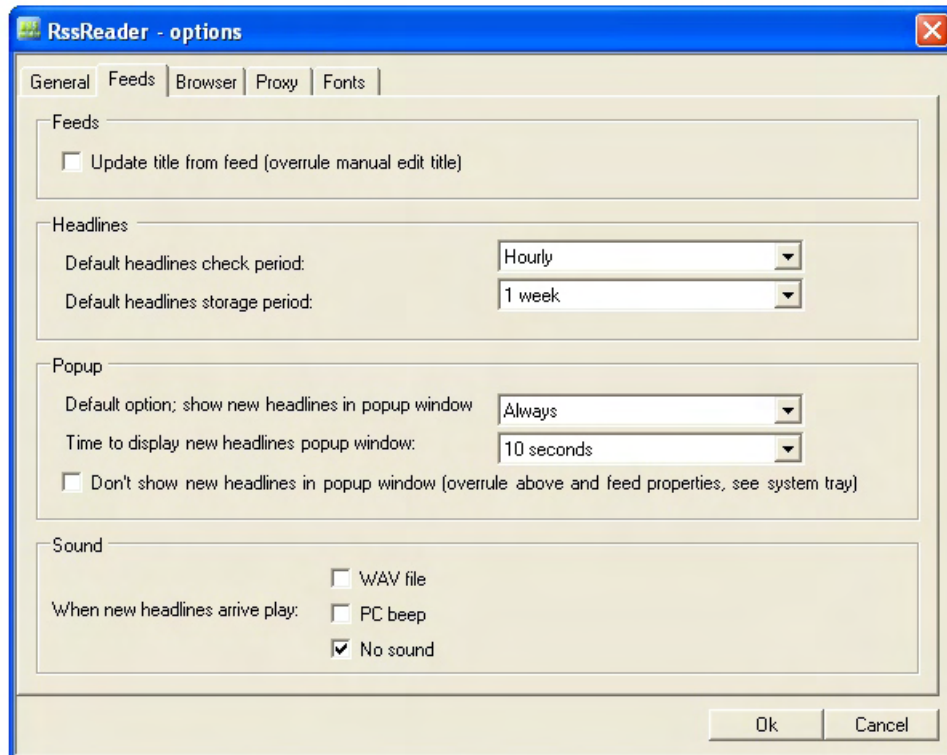

Advanced RssReader Options:

Modifying a Feed**.** To add a filter to a feed, select the feed and right-click on it, and select "Feed
        properties" from the menu. In the middle of the window you will see the URL line to
        which you can add or modify your filters.

Remember to start your first filter with a "?" and separate with a "&".

Modifying Feed Settings. You may change the frequency of which the headlines are checked, how long they are saved, how the popup window works and sounds from the RssReader Options Window. From the RssReader toolbar, select Tool and then Options. Select the Feeds tab to get to the window displayed below.

CAUTION: Some users may find the installation of this application difficult. The staff of the Bankruptcy Court will not be available to assist in the installation of the RssReader (or other news reader) or in the setup of the URL and filters. This application has been provided for those that have the expertise to install the required software on their own or have access to their own technical resources.

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